Photographers invited to enter DNREC Division of Watershed Stewardship's first Delaware Watersheds Photo Contest

DOVER — DNREC's Division of Watershed Stewardship invites photographers to participate in the first Delaware Watersheds Photo Contest, which aims to share the beauty of Delaware's diverse environment while acting as a vivid reminder that everything that happens on land within the state's watersheds also directly affects what's happening in our waterways.

The contest is open to all photographers, but only images taken of Delaware watersheds will be accepted. A watershed is all of the land that water moves across or under while flowing into a specific body of water. Contest judges will look for striking photo images in four contest categories: Natural Landscapes and Waterscapes of Delaware; Native Wildlife of Delaware; Native Plants of Delaware; and Protecting the Waterways of Delaware. Criteria for each category are listed below.

All entries must be submitted by Wednesday, June 6. DNREC judges will choose entries that move on to the next stage of the contest — online public voting — which will determine the finalists in each category. Photography by contest finalists will be on display at the 2018 Delaware State Fair and will be voted on by fairgoers to determine first, second and third-place winners. The three winners in each category will receive a DNREC Delaware State Parks annual pass for 2019. First-place winners in each category also will be recognized at the annual DNREC Awards ceremony on Governor's Day at the Delaware State

Fair in July. Winning photographs also may appear in a future issue of Outdoor Delaware magazine.

To enter the contest, participants should email their 300 dpi or greater (no larger than 20 MB) resolution digital image in .jpeg or .png format with a completed submission form to Delaware Watersheds Photo Contest. Entries should include information on where the photo was taken, the category it is being entered in, and, if submitting a photo in the Native Wildlife or Native Plant category, the name of the species in the photo.

Contestants may enter photographs in any or all of the four categories. A completed submission form must accompany each photograph entered. Photos eligible for each category are as follows:

- Natural Landscapes and Waterscapes of Delaware Photos of any waterbodies such as streams, rivers, lakes, creeks, estuaries, bay, ocean, etc. or scenic landscapes in Delaware.
- Native Wildlife of Delaware May include native animals, birds, fish, insects, and amphibians. (Photographs of domesticated animals are not eligible.) When submitting in this category, the name of the species depicted must be included in the submission form.
- Native Plants of Delaware Photographs of Delaware native plants in any setting. When submitting in this category, the name of the species depicted must be included in the submission form.
- Protecting the Waterways of Delaware Photos should portray what people can do to help protect our waterways, such as rain barrels, streamside buffers, and rain gardens. For more information on actions to help protect Delaware's waterways, visit: delawarewatersheds.org/You-can-help/

Submission forms can be found at <u>delawarewatersheds.org/</u>. Completed forms and photos should be emailed to <u>Delaware Watershed Photo Contest</u>.

For more information, please contact Phil Miller at 302-290-3578 or email Philip.Miller@delaware.gov.

Media contact: Philip Miller, DNREC Conservation Programs Section, 302-290-3578.

Vol. 48, No. 110